



GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION
TO REVISE THE ANNOTATED CODE
OF MARYLAND

REVISOR'S MANUAL





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Annapolis, Maryland

September, 1971

STATE OF MARYLAND

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION TO REVISE THE ANNOTATED CODE

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REVISOR'S MANUAL

The purpose of this Manual is to set forth procedures and techniques to be followed by staff personnel engaged in the Maryland Code revision project and to provide style guidelines for draftsmen. In addition, the Manual will provide an overview of the authority and objectives of the Governor's Commission to Revise the Annotated Code, and a brief history of code revision in this state.

I. ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION

The Governor's Commission to Revise the Annotated Code was established by Governor Marvin Mandel on July 16, 1970. At the commission's first meeting on September 18, 1970, Governor Mandel pointed out that the last comprehensive revision of the Code was completed in 1888 and that during the intervening years a great many statutes had been added, frequently with little or no reference to existing articles of the Code or to logical relationship with existing statutes. As a result, the Governor said, the Annotated Code has lost whatever rational cohesiveness it may once have had, and it has become increasingly difficult to use the Code. The Governor indicated that there now exist in the Code various inconsistencies in the statutory treatment of similar subjects. He also noted the additional problem of the lack of any system for the collection and publication of executive orders, public local laws, and appropriate governmental regulations.

The commission, therefore, has been charged with the responsibility of undertaking a formal revision of the public general laws

of Maryland while making recommendations concerning appropriate systems of collecting and publishing the public local laws, executive orders, and agency regulations. In addition, the commission is to study and make recommendations as to related problems which may be perceived during the course of the commission's activities. These responsibilities include proposing repeal of obsolete laws, and making appropriate suggestions as to treatment of conflicting or inconsistent laws, as well as study of and recommendations for revision of those British statutes which still remain in effect in Maryland.

The commission can take no action resulting in an actual change in statutory language without the approval of the General Assembly. Thus, the commission will operate essentially as a drafting and recommendatory body to the legislature. This was clearly recognized by the Governor in his direction to the commission to "[s]ubmit its proposals and recommendations to the General Assembly of Maryland at such time or times as it may deem expedient".

II. CODE REVISION IN MARYLAND

Article III, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution of 1851 specified "... it shall be the duty of the legislature at the first session after the adoption of this constitution to appoint two commissioners, learned in the law, to revise and codify the laws of this State; and the said commissioners shall report said Code, so formed, to the legislature within a time by it to be determined, for its approval, amendment or rejection"

The need for this Code, which became the Code of 1860, is at least partly reflected in its preface where it is noted that

the statutes of Maryland "embracing all legislation from the first settlement of the State ... were scattered through more than forty volumes, so that ... it was no easy matter to ascertain what was the law." ¹

It is important to note that the 1860 Code in effect repealed all previous public local and public general laws. Any such law not included in this code did not exist thereafter; City of Frederick vs. Groshon, 30 Md. 436 (1869). On the other hand, private laws, such as the Vestry Act of 1798, remained in effect unless expressly repealed; see Bartlett vs. Hipkins, 76 Md. 5 (1892).

Thus, the 1860 Code was a bulk revision in the strict sense. It was also a formal revision, generally not intended to alter the substance of the pre-existing laws. As the Court of Appeals has pointed out (referring to the 1860 Code):

The principal function of a Code is to reorganize the statutes and state them in simpler form. Consequently, any changes made in them by a Code are presumed to be for the purpose of clarity rather than change of meaning. Therefore, even a change in the phraseology of a statute by a codification thereof will not ordinarily modify the law unless the change is so radical and material that the intention of the Legislature to modify the law appears unmistakably from the language of the Code; Welch vs. Humphrey 200 Md. 410, 417, 90, Ap. 2d, 686 (1952); see also Crow vs. Hubbard 62 Md. 560 (1884).

The 1860 Code was in two volumes, one containing public general laws and one containing public local laws. The former volume contained 98 articles, alphabetically arranged, with little concern for logical relationship of subjects, or to the relative scope and importance of the different articles.

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¹ Actually, many of these laws had been gathered in 1840 in the three volumes known as Dorsey's Laws of Maryland which served as the official compilation for the public general and public local laws of the State from the period 1692 to 1839 inclusive. Other early collections of laws include Bacon's Laws of Maryland (1765), Kilty's Laws of Maryland, 1691-1799 (1799-1800), Kilty, Report of All English Statutes Applicable to Maryland (1811) and Alexander's British Statutes (Coe's Ed. 1912).

In 1878, the public general laws were recompiled into 27 titles, each designated by roman numerals. Within each title were one or more articles, (74 in all), topically related, and each designated by arabic numbers, running consecutively throughout the code. This publication is the only one in which Maryland has attempted a topical rather than an alphabetical classification system.

In 1886, the legislature directed a formal bulk revision of the code. By Chapter 74, Acts of 1888, this code was adopted as the "Code of Public General Laws and Code of Public Local Laws of this State, respectively, in lieu of and as a substitute for all Public General Laws and Public Local Laws of this State in force on the first Wednesday of January in the year Eighteen Hundred Eighty Eight."

As Governor Mandel has noted, this was the last bulk formal revision of Maryland's statutory law.

The Code of 1888 contains 100 articles arranged alphabetically with little apparent effort to provide for topical organization or to utilize articles of equivalent scope and importance.

This code is the authoritative source of the statutory law of the State as it existed in 1888; see Brenner vs. Plitt, 182 Md. 348, 34 A2d 853 (1943).

A compilation of the public general laws was published in 1904, replacing a compilation of 1903, most of the editions of which were destroyed in the Baltimore fire. This continues the alphabetical arrangement of the 1888 Code and includes the first instances of the attachment of a capital letter to an article number in order to insert a new article in the appropriate alphabetical spot; for example, Article LXXVA, "Public Accountant" and Article

XCVIA, "Weather Service".

The year 1911 marked the beginning of a four volume compilation bringing down to date the Code of 1904. The first two volumes included the public civil laws; the third, published in 1914, included criminal law, and the fourth, issued in 1918, supplemented the earlier volumes.

There was a further compilation of the public general laws in 1924. By Chapter 219 of the Acts of that year, this was made evidence of the public general laws existing in 1888 and as subsequently enacted.

Subsequent compilations of the public general laws have included Flack's Code of 1939, Flack's Code of 1951, and Michie's Code of 1957, with its various supplementary volumes.

The last compilation of the public local laws was in 1930, although there have been a number of subsequent codifications of public local laws relating to specific counties.

The Michie Code is evidence of the public general laws of the State of Maryland "as contained in the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland of 1888 as amended, modified and changed from time to time ..."; Chapter 23, Acts of 1957. The 1957 Code retains in general the alphabetical organization used in all Maryland revisions and compilations except that of 1878. However, there are exceptions to the alphabetical approach; for example, Article 93, "Decedent's Estates" occupies the place allocated to "Testamentary Law". It is followed by Article 93A "Protection of Minors" which is topically somewhat related, but clearly out of alphabetical order. Another example is Article 14A, "Warehouse Receipts", which follows Article 14, "Bills of Lading". Here again, there is a topical relationship but not an alphabetical one.

The code is further complicated by wide-spread use of capital letters to provide for the insertion of new articles and also by the use of fractions (e.g. Art. 66 1/2) for the same purpose.

Internal organization of the articles varies widely and there is no consistency so far as the numbering system for the sections.

There are some 179 "spaces" for articles although about 19 of these have become dormant through repeal, expiration, or incorporation in another article.² The articles themselves vary widely in importance and scope: from one like Article 66C "Natural Resources" which probably includes some 800 sections and covers a vast amount of subject matter to one like Article 67 "Negligence Causing Death", originally containing six sections (two now repealed), and directed to a very narrow subject, or Article 3, "Aliens", containing one section five lines in length.

III. THE COMMISSION'S WORK

The commission decided, on January 5, 1971, to proceed with its revision work on a "piece-meal" article-by-article basis, i.e., the actual recodification projects would be limited to only one, two, or perhaps three or more articles at the same time. The revision is to be a formal and not substantive revision, which, as indicated, earlier, means that the effect of the law on any particular subject is not to be altered by the commission. This piece-meal approach was decided upon by the full commission as it would permit the staff to proceed on a step-by-step basis within the general framework of classification while allowing a greater degree of flexibility and experimentation in the actual revision work.

² In addition, at least three new articles (27A, 39C and 48B) were inserted by the 1971 General Assembly, and at least one (20) was deleted.

As a result of the commission's meeting on January 5, 1971, Chairman William S. James was authorized to appoint individual commission members to three subcommittees: Classification and Numbering, Data Processing, and Style and Drafting.³ At this meeting, the commission decided to have the staff begin work on the preparation of both a style and revisor's manual, while initiating formal revision of the laws pertaining to the subject of natural resources.

After receiving recommendations from its various subcommittees, the commission decided to adopt a topical or logical (as opposed to alphabetical) approach to classification, and to proceed with piecemeal formal bulk revision of the present public general laws on the basis of a classification system involving approximately 20 major divisions, to be known as articles. The names of the proposed articles, a general subject-matter description of each, and the tentative allocations of existing public general laws appear in Appendix A - Allocation Tables.

The commission also determined that the internal arrangement of the revision would be:

Article
Title
Subtitle
Section

Section breakdown is shown in detail in Part V of the Manual dealing with style.

The numbering system adopted by the commission is a multiple-significance dash system, under which the digit(s) to the left of the dash denotes the title; the first digit(s) to the right of the

³ In May, 1971, the chairman appointed additional subcommittees on Courts and Judicial Proceedings, Long-Range Planning, and Natural Resources.

dash denotes the subtitle, and the remaining digit(s) denotes the section within that subtitle. Thus:

7-101

would mean the first section in the first subtitle of title 7 of a given article.

Under this system, titles are numbered consecutively throughout articles, subtitles are numbered consecutively throughout titles and sections are numbered consecutively throughout subtitles.

Expansion will be handled essentially by use of decimals added to the number of the title or section.

Staff personnel, in conjunction with selected interested third parties and organizations, will prepare for the commission's review the actual revision work of the various code articles which, in turn, will be submitted to the General Assembly in appropriate bill form for the legislature's consideration. Accompanying such revisions will be extensive staff reports and notes that will serve to explain the work that has been done and the formal changes made. Again, it must be stated that it is neither the function nor the intention of this commission to undertake substantive revision for, as indicated earlier, to do so would be outside the scope of authority of this commission and would infringe on the prerogative of the General Assembly. Substantive proposals which appear as desirable for fulfillment of the commission's task will, however, be brought to the legislature's attention.

IV. REVISION PROCEDURES

A. Statutory Base

The commission has decided that the 1957 Edition of the Code (Michie) as amended will be the basis for all revision and recodi-

fication work. Thus, no statutory record will have to be constructed showing all of the legislative changes that have been made in the various articles and sections since 1888. Of course, in specific cases, the revisors may have occasion to do detailed research on legislative history of a provision prior to 1957.

At the outset of the project, the staff will obtain a computer listing of every article, section and subsection of the 1957 Code. This will be utilized as a control disposition sheet. It will be updated annually, following each legislative session.

B. Summary of Procedures.

The commission has adopted a schedule of priorities for revision (Policy Statement: Priorities for Revision, Revision Schedule; Appendix B.). Within this schedule, as it may be modified from time to time, the director will assign to a staff member the primary responsibility for revision of a subject area of the law. The assignment will be by reference to the name of an article of the proposed revised code (e.g. "Natural Resources" or "Commercial Law"). The assignment will include tentative target dates for various phases of the revision. After the assignment has been made, the staff member primarily responsible (the revisor) will conduct or supervise the following procedures, each of which will be discussed in more detail below:

1. Read through the material to be revised.
- *2. Outline the general structure of the proposed new article.
3. Obtain a copy of statutes through either a computer print-out or by manual means, or a combination of both.
- *4. Screen assembled material for relevance to proposed article.

*5. Screen material for:

- a. Obsolescence
- b. Conflict
- c. Repeal
- d. Unconstitutionality
- e. Obvious gaps

*6. Review and revise outline in light of above, adding references to specific sections of existing law, if not previously done.

7. Place material in order pursuant to outline.

8. Revise language of material.

9. Reproduce revised material.

*10. Submit this product to the commission.

11. Effect modifications pursuant to commission decisions.

12. Submit commission-approved (tentatively) article to appropriate government agencies and other interested groups.

*13. Revise this material pursuant to comments embodied in commission decisions made during step 12.

*14. Prepare material in bill form and again submit to interested agencies and groups, if necessary in view of commission.

15. Prepare indices and disposition tables.

16. Submit legislation to Legislative Council or General Assembly.

The ultimate step will be the submission of a bill for adoption of the entire revised code, in lieu of all prior public general laws (subject to specified exceptions). This step obviously will be taken only after appropriate updating and revision to reflect legislative action from the date of adoption of a new article through the date of adoption of the complete revised code.

C. Detailed Procedure.

1. Initial Reading

The revisor will read the text of all statutes allocated to the proposed new article (See Appendix A - Allocation Tables). He will keep in mind the scope of the new articles and also the general scope of other proposed articles (see Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Subcommittee on Classification and Numbering, and Part 2, Allocation Tables). This will enable him to make initial judgments as to inclusion and exclusion on a section-by-section basis. The reading process should also be valuable from the point of view of organizing the material in a logical manner and in accordance with the guidelines set forth in Part V of this Manual, and the general policies of the commission.

2. Initial Outline

The revisor will next prepare a structural outline of the material to be included in the proposed article. Examples of such outlines are in the Commission's files, and should be consulted by the revisor. The outline should organize the material in logical fashion, pursuant to established guidelines. The outline may be submitted to the commission, a commission subcommittee, and concerned agencies, in accordance with commission policies, or pursuant to the director's instructions. The outline will include preliminary comments as to material to be omitted or added on the basis of relevance to the subject matter. The outline will, in any event, be submitted to the director, and will be revised under his supervision, and in accordance with advice received from the commission and interested agencies.

3. Initial Assembly of Material Through Computer Print-Out or by Manual Method, or Combination Thereof.

After the outline has been approved by the director, the revisor will create the data base by one of the following three procedures: a computer search and print-out of the statutory material; manual xerox, cut and paste method; or some combination thereof.

If the revisor and the director deem it necessary, the revisor may request a computer search and print-out of the applicable statutes where the subject area of the law is not readily ascertainable. This print-out will generally include the text of all statutes that have been allocated to the article. In addition, the revisor may request a print-out of other statutes which he believes might be relevant to the article in question. However, this is dependent upon the particular project. Any search will be done on a key-word and key-phrase basis.

Depending upon the project, the revisor and director may decide to create manually the statutory base (e.g. xeroxing the appropriate code sections). This method would be utilized where the statutory material is present in specific and easily identifiable parts of the code. The xeroxing would obviate the need for the revisor to cut up any number of individual volumes of the code in order to create the data base. The data base would then be available for manipulation in order to rearrange in proper order various statutory material.

However, in certain instances, the revisor may determine that he has obtained most, if not all of the material that he believes relevant to that particular project. Yet the revisor and director may still wish to utilize a computer search and print-out which will retrieve all of the related law with the exception of the statutory material that the staff already has in its possession. In this case,

the search would be framed so as to allow the revisor to receive only certain specific statutory material found in the code; namely, those portions of the law that are not in his possession.

Whichever method is utilized to create the data base, care must be taken to insure that a proper examination is made of those remaining portions of the code which were not allocated to that particular revision project in the allocation table.

As indicated above, when a general search is required, it will be framed in such a way so as to be all-inclusive. It is hoped that this initial search will be too broad rather than too narrow or confining in its approach. The basic object of this general initial search is to retrieve all of the law that might possibly be related to the article that is to be revised. Such a search was requested in connection with the natural resources project, and a copy of the request form is in the files.

Whenever any request for a search is made, the person requesting the search will require three copies of the computer print-out. One copy will serve as the control or file copy, and will not be used by any staff member in any capacity other than as a control, or check volume, so as to assure that at least one such copy is totally intact. The second and third copies of the search will be given to two staff attorneys who will then be responsible for reviewing all of the assembled search material in an attempt to note those portions of the search that are not thought to be relevant to the article that is being revised. In addition to the search material, the revisor will request that the computer company print-out a separate list of all those sections and subsections that comprise the search. This

list will then be used by a secretary when she prepares the "Article and Section Housekeeping Data Information Sheet" which is described later.

4.

5. Screening the Assembled Material.

The revisor will next proceed to examine, as the case may be, either the print-out, the assembled xeroxed statutory material, or some combination of the two. In either case, he will exclude print-out sections which are not relevant to the article under revision. As to each section or subsection of the assembled material so excluded, the revisor will prepare a memorandum stating the reason for exclusion, and proposing the appropriate area of allocation, if any. A copy of this memorandum will be furnished the director, a second copy will be placed with the control copy of the search, and a third copy will be filed under the article proposed for allocation or (if the statute is proposed for repeal) under such a heading.

The revisor will also examine the material for duplication, obsolescence, conflicts, repeal, unconstitutionality, and obvious gaps. Procedure will be as follows:

a. Duplication. If the item in question duplicates another item in the same proposed article or elsewhere, one of the duplicating provisions will normally be eliminated, and memoranda will be prepared and distributed as directed above.

b. Obsolescence. If time, circumstances or other factors have rendered the item obsolete or no longer effective (e.g. requirement that a train stop at the Calvert Street Station in Baltimore - although such a station no longer exists) the item will be excluded and memoranda will be prepared and distributed as directed above.

Note that transitory or temporary provisions which have become obsolete will be deleted at this stage. However, the controlling principle must be "if in doubt, the material should not be excluded".

c. Conflicts. If a section conflicts in whole or in part with another section of the revision, memoranda will be prepared as directed above, including a recommendation as to which of the conflicting provisions should be eliminated. In this connection, it should be kept in mind that a decision of this sort may be basically a policy decision regarding substantive law. In some instances, it may be desirable merely to call the conflict to the attention of the legislature so that it may make the decision. But it should also be noted that Governor Mandel specifically called to the commission's attention problems arising from "numerous inconsistencies in the statutory treatment of similar subjects" Thus, the matter of conflicts is squarely within the scope of the commission's charge.

d. Repeal. If examination of the applicable statutes indicates express or implied repeal (e.g. references to justices of the peace now replaced by district court judges) the item will be excluded or appropriately rewritten and memoranda will be prepared and distributed as directed above.

e. Unconstitutionality. If the statute has been held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States, the Maryland Court of Appeals or the Maryland Court of Special Appeals, a similar procedure will be followed. In this connection, each section will be Shepardized and the annotations in the 1957 Code will be checked on the question of unconstitutionality, and with the commission's own case file. If the revisor

concludes that a statute is unconstitutional, but it has not been held unconstitutional, he will submit a memorandum to the director. Such material may be brought to the attention of the General Assembly in the discretion of the commission.

f. Obvious gaps. If a statute shows clear omissions which make its meaning or application doubtful or ambiguous, the revisor will submit a memorandum to the director, who may bring the matter to the attention of the commission and of any interested agency, for eventual legislative correction.

6. Revision of Outline.

After the completion of the above steps, the revisor will review his outline and make any necessary adjustments. The revised outline will be submitted to the director and may be submitted to the commission, to a subcommittee of the commission or to an interested agency, for comment and, if appropriate, approval.

7. Organization of Material.

The remaining material will then be placed in order according to the outline or revised outline, and numbered pursuant to the numbering system adopted by the commission.

A commission secretary will then place every section on an individual index card. Each card will contain the following information with respect to each section: (1) its present code citation (e.g. Article 27, Section 200, 200(a), 200(b), etc...) making sure that reference to subsections is made wherever appropriate, and (2) the general subject matter designation of that particular section (for this purpose, the secretary will indicate the unofficial Michie heading as classification for each section). Two sets of such index

cards will be made; one will serve as that particular project's control index set while the second set is to be given to the revisor who is in charge of the revision project. These cards will serve the function of indicating the eventual disposition for each section and subsection from its present code allocation to its final position in any revised article. Furthermore, these cards will serve as the basis for the extensive revisor's notes that will be necessary to explain in detail the action that has been taken by the commission in completing the project. It is to be noted that those sections or subsections that have been eliminated by the staff attorneys in their initial review of the assembled statutory material are also to be placed on index cards with a brief explanation of why the section or subsection was excluded.

In addition to the card index system, the secretary will prepare and maintain an "Article and Section Housekeeping Data Information Sheet" which will serve to complement the index card system. These data information sheets will be used to show the reader the disposition of all sections and subsections that have been considered by the staff as a result of the search. The sheet will appear as follows:

ARTICLE & SECTION HOUSEKEEPING DATA INFORMATION SHEET

ARTICLE REVISION PROJECT: _____ PAGE NO: _____

PRESENT ARTICLE DESIGNA- TION	PRESENT SECTION DESIGNA- TION	PRESENT SUBSECTION DESIGNA- TION	NEW ARTICLE DESIGNA- TION	NEW SECTION DESIGNA- TION	NEW SUBSECTION DESIGNA- TION	ELIMIN- ATED	DATE AND INITIALS

This sheet will serve the purpose of having all present articles, sections, and subsections that pertain to the project plan in some manageable numerical order so that cross-tabulation can be simplified. The secretary will prepare this sheet either from the article, section, and subsection print-out that accompanied the search material, if a print-out was utilized, or from the allocation table that has been prepared to contrast the present and proposed location of all the various articles, sections, and subsections in the code. Obviously, in the final analysis, nothing will be found in the data information sheet that is not present in the index card set; however, the sheets will serve as a more convenient method of determining eventual section and subsection designation in the recodified article. Again, two sets of data sheets will be prepared; one is to serve as the control copy while the second set is to be used by the staff attorney.

In order to assure that the control sets of index cards and data information sheets are constantly being kept current and thus accurately reflect the work being done by the revisor, he should on at least a weekly basis, meet with the secretary in order to inform her of the work that has been accomplished in the revision project so that she can note the appropriate changes and notations on the control cards and sheets that will be necessary.

The need for control copies of the initial outline, computer search material if any, index card set, and the data housekeeping information sheets are obvious. Therefore, under no circumstances are any of these copies to be removed from the commission offices.

8. Revision of Language.

The material arranged pursuant to step 7 will then be examined and re-written in accordance with the guidelines set forth in Part V of this Manual. The Maryland Legislative Drafting Manual 1970 will also be referred to. Every precaution will be taken to see that the substance of the laws is not changed. In this connection, annotations to the 1957 Code and the commission's case file will be checked with reference to court decisions, construing the meaning of words or phrases in a statute. Language may be revised to reflect decisions of this type. New definitions of words or phrases may also be prepared, if appropriate.

The objective here is to restate the substance of the law in clear, understandable language. A continuity of style should prevail throughout the revision.

The completed draft will be submitted to the director for his approval, and may also be submitted to the commission, a subcommittee of the commission, or an interested agency.

9. Reproduction of Revised Material.

After necessary approval of this material has been obtained, it will be reproduced. The assembled copies should be in a form permitting comparison of old and new language. It should also show excluded provisions as deemed necessary by the revisor.

10. Submission to Commission.

The revision draft will be submitted to the commission for comment and approval. At this stage, the commission may also submit the material to interested agencies and groups for comment.

11. Further Modifications.

The revisor will complete any further modifications of the material required by reason of Step 10.

12. Commission Approval.

The material, as modified, will be again submitted to the commission for approval. At this stage, unless deemed unnecessary because of prior action, the commission will take the necessary steps to obtain comments from interested agencies and groups. The commission will decide what further modifications are required in light of the comments.

13. Final Revision.

The revisor will make changes required pursuant to Step 12, above. These changes will be approved by the director, and, if necessary, by the commission.

14. Preparation in Bill Form.

The material will then be placed in bill form. It may again be submitted to interested parties, if the commission so directs.

15. Indices and Disposition Tables.

The revisor will prepare appropriate indices, disposition, and cross-reference tables to accompany the bill.

16. Submission to General Assembly.

The bill will be submitted to the Legislative Council or to the General Assembly, as directed by the commission. It will be accompanied by appropriate indices, tables, and memoranda explaining treatment of the subject matter.

17. Updating During and Following Legislative Session.

Sometimes, an article may be in the process of revision during a legislative session. Bills may be introduced at that session dealing

with the subject-matter of the article. On other occasions, bills may relate to the subject-matter of a previously-revised article. The commission staff will examine every bill and resolution introduced at each legislative session. In the case of measures inconsistent with previously-adopted or pending revisions as to organization, form, style, or substance, the staff, working with the Department of Legislative Reference, will call the matter to the attention of appropriate legislative and executive branch officers. Every effort will be made to preserve consistency of organization, form, and style of the laws.

Of course, laws will be enacted at each session which will affect articles recently-revised. Handling of such material will be through a continuous revision process which has not yet been completely established. However, other enactments will deal with articles in process of revision during or immediately following a session. Inevitably, there will be some time lag between the end of a session and the insertion of session laws into the computer data base or the Michie Code. To avoid any delay for this reason, a copy of each bill signed by the Governor following a session will be obtained by the commission and filed according to article and section of the 1957 Code. The revisor will check this file with respect to any article he is then revising, and will take appropriate steps to examine, screen, and revise the new statutes, inserting them into the revision in an appropriate location and pursuant to the procedures outlined above. A cut-and-paste method will be followed for this purpose, using copies of the engrossed bills.

A revisor working on an article which is nearing completion during or shortly after a legislative session will also review for possible relevance all bills enacted at that session and signed by

the Governor. This review is in lieu of a computer search of the material, and is required because of the time lag involved in placing the material in the computer's data base, or in the published code.

D. General Principles.

Throughout the entire revision project the revisor must assume that his knowledge of the subject matter is not sufficient to complete the revision without the assistance of commission members and third parties whose expertise in a particular area is established. Indeed, the revisor should be encouraged to consult with other and more experienced parties in order to insure that all elements of the project are being prepared on a level which will insure that a superior revision project is being accomplished.

The revisor who is responsible for the particular revision must meet with the commission director after he has reviewed the search material. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss how long both estimate it should take for the project to be completed. Obviously, there is no way this can be accurately determined in advance; however, a rough assessment will be necessary in order to provide that the commission's work is accomplished at a pace which assures both professionalism and efficiency. As this last is but an estimate of time for the project's completion, provision should be made for the occurrence of some unforeseen circumstance that might hinder completion within the estimated time period.

As the revision work proceeds and the sections and subsections are given their new numerical designations, the revisor should make sure that the necessary notations are reflected both on the index card set and the data information sheet. In addition to dating and

initialing his copy of the data sheet so that accurate records can be maintained, the secretary, at her weekly meeting with the staff attorney, will in turn make the necessary notations on the control index card set and data information sheet.

E. Updating.

Once the General Assembly has approved the particular revision project and the bill has been signed by the Governor, the revisor who was responsible for the recodification program must make the necessary notations on the control disposition sheet of every article, section, and subsection found in the code, so as to insure that as the revision work of the commission continues, every section or subsection of all articles will have been reviewed by the staff in the course of the various revision projects.

The final step will include arrangement of the revised articles in appropriate order, and enactment of a complete new code of public general laws at the conclusion of the project.

V. STYLE GUIDELINES

The object of statutory drafting is to set forth ideas with accuracy, brevity, clarity, simplicity, and consistency. The grouping of sections and paragraphs, and the arrangement of language within a section or paragraph should be designed logically to enhance the meaning intended to be conveyed. The draftsman should observe the general principles of good English usage. He should avoid use of long sentences and long sections. He should use short, familiar words and phrases. He should not use several words if one is sufficient, but changes in mere phraseology should be minimized.

Within this context, the following guidelines are established:

A. General organization within a statute. As a general rule, and always subject to the objectives of accuracy, brevity, clarity, and simplicity, statutes should be arranged as follows:

1. Definitions and exceptions (if necessary);
2. Creation of agency or authority; any statement of major purpose or policy;
3. Administrative provisions;
4. Substantive provisions (rights, privileges, duties, prohibitions, etc.);
5. Exceptions;
6. Penal or remedial provisions.

B. Classification, Numbering and Section Breakdown. The section is the basic unit of a statute. Whatever larger divisions may be selected, it is proposed that wherever possible the breakdown within a section be limited to subsection and paragraph.

C. Headings.

Each section and subsection should include a heading concisely summarizing its major subject. Headings are not to be considered as part of the law; see Code, 1957, Art. 1, Sec. 18.

D. Definitions.

1. Use only

- a. When a word is used in a sense other than its plain dictionary meaning;
- b. When there are several dictionary meanings;
- c. To avoid repetition; or
- d. To limit or extend the provisions of an Act.

2. Do not use definitions to pervert the normal meaning of a word. When a word is defined, use the defined word, not the definition. Consider this provision in connection with paragraph F. If the importance of a limitation or extension provision is such as to

indicate treatment other than by definition, the scope of the Act should be spelled out in a separate section.

E. "Legalisms".

Avoid such words as "aforesaid", "Hereinabove", "before mentioned", "whatsoever", etc. Generally, use the article instead of "such" or "said". Do not use "and/or".

F. Conditions, Exceptions and Limitations.

1. If there are conditions or limitations pertaining to a statute, it is often well to state them at or near the beginning of the section.

2. Provisos should be used only to take special cases out of a general enactment, never to introduce additional general provisions.

3. Conditions should be established by using "if" instead of "when" or "where".

G. "Shall" and "May".

Use "shall" only in an active sense when imposing duties. Use "may" when a requirement is to be stated in the passive sense. Use "may not" or "No person may" to impose a prohibition.

H. Synonyms.

Do not use synonyms or the same word in different senses.

I. Tense, Person, Number and Voice.

1. Use the present tense wherever possible. A statute is regarded as constantly speaking.

2. Use the third person.

3. Use the single number.

4. Use the active rather than the passive voice; don't use the subjunctive.

J. Finite Verbs.

Use finite verbs instead of corresponding noun or adjective forms denoting action as "consider" instead of "give consideration", "know" instead of "have knowledge of".

K. Capitalization.

Use capitals sparingly. For instance, it is not necessary to capitalize words such as: legislature, state, judge, board, commission, committee, or court. On the other hand, the following words should ordinarily be capitalized: "Act" when referring to a specific statute; "Code" when referring to the Annotated Code of Maryland; "Governor", "Chief Judge", "Attorney General", "Comptroller" and "Treasurer" when referring to those constitutional offices; "Secretary" when referring to the chief of a principal department of state government; "General Assembly"; "Constitution" when referring to either the Constitution of the State of Maryland or the Constitution of the United States of America; the full official title of any agency of state or local government; and wherever appropriate to avoid misunderstanding and maintain emphasis.

L. Numbers in Text.

1. Write numbers from one through ten in words only.
2. Write numbers over ten in arabic numbers only.
3. When referring to money use figures only. .
4. When referring to the date by month and day only use "July 1" instead of "July 1st", "July one" or "July first". Do not use "the 1st day of July" or an equivalent phrase.

5. Take care to insure that the substantive effect of a statute is not changed under the guise of a numbering style change. "The first Monday in May" is not the equivalent of "May 1".

M. References.

When reasonably possible, avoid referring to other sections of the law by number only. The numbers may be changed by amendment, thus making the reference confusing.

N. Punctuation.

Punctuate carefully, but try not to make the meaning of the language depend upon the punctuation. In a series involving three or more items, use a comma before the word "and" or "or"; thus: "butter, eggs, and cheese".

O. Changes in Existing Law.

Deletions from existing law will be indicated by enclosing the matter deleted in double parentheses or brackets. New matter inserted in existing law will be underscored or shown in italics.

VI. ADDITIONAL DUTIES

Some staff activities involve the revision process in general, as opposed to the specific revision of particular statutes. In addition, the staff may from time to time be required to perform some functions not strictly within the scope of statutory revision. These additional duties do not fall within the range of Part IV of the Manual but are discussed here.

A. Review of Court Decisions.

1. Constitutionality and Construction of Statutes.

During the prescribed revision procedure, annotations to existing sections and other sources will be checked with respect to constitutionality of a statute and construction of a statute. Because the annotations are updated only on an annual basis, the director or

his designee will examine all decisions of the Court of Appeals and of the Court of Special Appeals, and will refer decisions dealing with the constitutionality of a statute, the construction of a statute, or the meaning of particular words in a statute, to the appropriate revisor or the appropriate file. Efforts will also be made to follow decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States and decisions of other courts and of law writers with respect to these matters, and to refer them to the appropriate revisor.

2. Problems referred to the Legislature.

From time to time, a Maryland court will note the existence of a problem, but suggest that its solution is for the legislature. With respect to any such decision, the director or his designee will prepare a memorandum and will submit these memoranda to the commission or the commission chairman at appropriate times.

B. Validation of Devises, Bequests, etc.

Article 38 of the Declaration of Rights requires legislative sanction for certain gifts, sales, devises, or bequests executed on or before November 2, 1948, or contained in the will of any person dying on or before November 2, 1948. While the passage of time will eventually eliminate the problem, at present a bill to validate such transactions (especially devises and bequests) is introduced at almost every session of the General Assembly. This often occurs because of the termination of a life estate, where the remainder interest passes to a religious corporation or some similar organization.

There is presently no simple way for an interested party to determine whether a transaction of this kind has been validated by the legislature. Since the commission staff will in regular course examine all statutes engrossed following a legislative session,

the director or his designee will prepare an appropriate index of every validation bill, beginning with the legislative session of 1971, and will make this index available to any interested party.

C. Private Bills.

Occasionally, the legislature adopts a private bill - e.g. the Vestry Act of 1798. Another example would be a bill authorizing the payment of damages to a specific individual. Such a bill is neither a public general law nor a public local law. Budget bills and local bond authorization bills, although not codified, do not fall within this category.

Beginning with the 1971 legislative session, the director or his designee will maintain an index of such bills, for the use of any interested party.

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APPENDIX A

ALLOCATION TABLES

1. Names of Proposed Articles

Business Regulation

Commercial Law

Corporations and Associations

Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Criminal Law

Education

Elections

Estates and Trusts

Family Law

General Provisions

Local Government

Natural Resources

Occupations and Professions

Property

Public Health

Public Safety

Social Services

State Government

Taxation and Revenue

Transportation

2. Description of Subject Matter of New Articles Adopted by Commission.

The following breakdown of each new code article is meant to provide the revisor with a meaningful descriptive guideline in the actual revision process of the intended subject matter scope of these major divisions as they constitute the classification and arrangement system of the new code.

Business Regulation

This article seeks to encompass all of those areas of the law which deal with particular business or corporate endeavors which have substantial portions of their operations supervised by the state government. The businesses which are intended to come within the criteria of this article are ones which are comprehensively regulated as a result of their monopolistic or franchised status; their particular use of the public's assets; the public's needs for fair-dealing and honesty; or the peculiar nature of the commodity or service from a broad social policy standpoint. Those business practices subject to a degree of state regulation aimed only at the quality of a particular product or service from the standpoint of its use by the public and not at the business in general, are not intended for inclusion in this article. Such statutes are generally allocated to the Public Health Article.

Commercial Law

This article is intended to cover those areas of the law concerning the actions and relationships among private groups and individuals in the entire economic market place. Specifically within the

scope of this article are: commercial sales, transactions and contractual obligations; commercial paper; the debtor-creditor relationship; and matters of a monetary and financial nature. In addition, there are included criminal statutes which prohibit particular actions that constitute a deviation from legal commercial conduct are included, but which do not define offenses, such as obtaining goods by false pretenses, which are properly the subject of general criminal law.

Corporations and Associations

This article contains statutes which primarily deal with the formation and organization of a corporation, partnership, unincorporated association, or any other such similar organized body, whether said body be for business, charity, religious, or any other lawful purpose. Included within this scope are statutes concerning the rights, duties and responsibilities of the directors, officers, governing bodies, and stockholders of these bodies as well as provisions dealing with their organization and internal operations.

Statutes which have as a dominant theme the formation and operation of a particular type of body with particularly different provisions provided for its specific purpose are not intended for inclusion in this article. Such statutes will be allocated to another article, the subject matter of which is closely related to the particular type of body.

Courts and Judicial Proceedings

This article embodies the statutes that deal with courts, judges, **court officials**, and court-related personnel in general, and with matters of jurisdiction, causes of action, and evidence at law and in equity. Judicial practices and procedures are included as well. It is intended essentially as a body of civil judicial law. Those provisions which are primarily civil in nature although some applying to both civil and criminal matters are a part of this

article. Substantive provisions governing relationships between persons (e.g. grounds for divorce) are usually allocated elsewhere (e.g. Family Law) unless inextricably intertwined with procedural material.

Criminal Law

This article includes statutes dealing with criminal law and criminal procedures. Those provisions which, while civil in nature, only take effect or directly bear upon the area of criminal law and the administration of criminal justice also have been added.

In terms of defining criminal offenses, the intention is to limit this article to the definition of crimes of the common law, or malum in se type. Malum prohibitum crimes, or criminal acts which derive from the violation of statutes or regulations such as fish and game laws, motor vehicle laws, etc. will be included within the basic substantive law in those areas.

Education

This article contains statutes which cover all phases of education at all levels as well as those which deal with the establishment and maintenance of government educational programs and institutions.

Elections

This article embodies all laws which relate to voting rights and the administration of the electoral process.

Estates and Trusts

This article's scope concerns all laws which relate to wills, trusts, decedent's estates, and probate matters. Included herein as closely related are provisions which provide for procedures for the

care, protection, or representation of persons under various legal disabilities, and for the safeguarding of their property.

Family Law

This article includes statutes relating to the status and personal relationships between members of a family, together with attendant rights, privileges, and responsibilities.

General Provisions

This article contains statutory provisions which have no specific subject matter theme that would limit their application to a given area of the law. Instead, these statutes have an overall application and relevance to an interpretation and utilization of the entire code; therefore they are considered as general provisions.

Local Government

This article includes statutes which deal with counties, municipalities, or regional governmental bodies in terms of setting forth the structure and power of such bodies and their respective authority and responsibilities for the exercise of various governmental functions.

Natural Resources

This article embodies laws dealing with the preservation, utilization, and development of natural resources as administered by the Department of Natural Resources. These provisions establish the organization and authority of the Department and confer jurisdiction over resources such as forests and parks, mining, water resources, fish and game, and agriculture. In addition, certain environmental service functions which specifically come under this Department are included.

Occupations and Professions

This article is intended to embody laws which regulate various occupations, professions, and employment positions by means of establishing standards and procedures for licensing, the disciplining and generally controlling the persons employed in the regulated occupation or profession.

Property

The laws under this article deal with the entire range of activities in the private sector concerning the utilization, transfer, control, rights, and obligations related to real and personal property. Included as well are statutory provisions covering specific processes and documents which are uniquely a part of the body of property law.

Public Health

This article includes all laws concerning a variety of state regulatory measures and programs which, by means of conferring health benefits and services, are directed towards the health protection and care of the public at large.

As used in this article, the term "public health" is intended to mean endeavors on the part of state government related to the achievement of the physical, mental, and medical well-being and health development of individuals. Therefore, some statutes are included in this article instead of the Social Services Article even though they concern social services. The distinction to be drawn is that while these statutes are social in the sense of being matters of public application, and are services in the sense of activities and programs, their dominant theme and purpose is health oriented.

Public Safety

The laws intended to come within the scope of this article are those which have a dominant theme of protection and order of society and relate in a broad sense to law enforcement and defense activities.

Social Services

The laws contained in this article concern governmental actions, programs, and endeavors which are directed towards conferring benefits and services of an economic and economically protective nature to the general public. Specifically excluded are such benefits and services primarily of a health nature which would come under the Public Health Article, and benefits and services related mainly to law enforcement. All other publically generated or controlled services are intended for inclusion.

To give some meaning to the term services, it refers to actions of assistance on the part of government in the field of economic and social protection in the course of society's activities.

State Government

This article is intended to contain those statutory provisions which are enabling and structural in nature and which deal primarily with the establishment and empowerment of those governmental units which are basic and general in scope and purpose. As a guideline, it can be stated that those agencies of government which have been established to perform a specific purpose or relate only to a specific subject matter, are allocated under those articles which concern that purpose or subject matter. As examples, Article 78 - "Public Service Commission Law", and Article 64A - Department of Social Services, would appear respectively under Business Regulation and

Social Services.

Taxation and Revenue

This article includes laws which set forth the authority and procedures whereby taxes and other imposts are established by government as a means of revenue development.

Transportation

This article is intended to bring together those areas of the law which deal essentially with systems or methods of transportation and travel. Included are statutory provisions which provide for the establishment and empowerment of governmental bodies which affect transportation by means of licensing, regulation, development, and, in some cases, ownership of activities.

APPENDIX B

Policy Statement: Priorities for Revision - Revision Schedule - Public General Laws

On April 26, 1971, the commission considered and accepted Staff Report No. 4, "Priorities for Revision" and Staff Report No. 5, "Long-Range Time Schedule". This Policy Statement combines proposals of the two Staff Reports, so far as they concern revision of the public general laws, and sets forth a time schedule for this task. This time schedule constitutes a set of objectives and is, of course, subject to modification, as is the indicated order of priorities.

1971

1. Natural Resources

Art. 14-B - State Boat Act; Art. 33B - Environmental Service; Art. 66C - Natural Resources; Art. 96A - Water Resources.

2. Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Art. 5 - Appeals; Art. 7 - Arbitration; Art. 9 - Attachments; Art. 15 - Bounding Lands (part); Art. 16 - Chancery (part); Art. 17 - Clerks of Court (part); Art. 24 - Costs; Art. 26 - Courts; Art. 31A - Declaratory Judgments; Art. 35 - Evidence; Art. 36 - Fees; Art. 40 - General Assembly (Sec.45); Art. 42 - Habeas Corpus; Art. 50 - Joint Obligations (part); Art. 51 - Juries; Art. 52 - Justices of the Peace; Art. 53- Landlord and Tenant (part); Art. 57 - Limitation of Actions; Art. 60 - Mandamus; Art. 67 - Negligence Causing Death; Art. 75 -

Practice, etc. at Law; Art. 75C - Prohibited Actions;
Art. 79 - Releases and Receipts (part); Art. 80 - Reporter -
State; Art. 83 - Sales and Notices (part); Art. 87 - Sheriffs;
Art. 88 - Slander of Females; Art. 90 - Sureties (part);
Art. 96 - United States (part).

1972

3. Taxation and Revenue

Art. 2B - Alcoholic Beverages (Sections 131-141); Art. 31 -
Debt - Public; Art. 62A - Md. Estate Tax; Art. 81 - Revenue
and Taxation.

4. Property

Art. 3 - Aliens; Art. 15 - Bounding Lands (part); Art.
17 - Clerks of Court (part); Art. 18 - Acknowledgments; Art.
21 - Conveyancing; Art. 33A - Eminent Domain; Art. 34 -
Estrays, etc; Art. 39C - Statute of Frauds; Art. 50 - Joint
Obligations (part); Art. 53 - Landlord and Tenant (part);
Art. 63 - Mechanics' Lien; Art. 64 - Merger; Art. 66 -
Mortgages; Art. 71 - Ordinaries, etc. (part); Art. 95C -
Disposition of Unclaimed Property.

5. Education

Art. 43A - Higher Education Loan Program Act; Art. 65A -
Morgan State College; Art. 77 - Public Education; Art. 77A -
Higher Education.

6. Public Health

Art. 2C - Alcoholism; Art. 22 - Postmortem Examiners;
Art. 43 - Health (part); Art. 43B - Drug Abuse; Art. 43C -
Md. Health and Higher Education; Art. 48 - Inspections; Art.

55 - Laundries (if retained in public general laws);
Art. 59 - Mental Hygiene (part); Art. 70B - Commission
on the Aging.

7. Public Safety

Art. 16A - Civil Defense; Art. 23 - Corporations (Secs.
342-348); Art. 26 A - Criminal Injuries Compensation Act;
Art. 38A - Fires & Investigations; Art. 41 - Gov. Exec. and
Admn. Depts. (part); Art. 48 - Inspections (Secs. 181-183);
Art. 65 - Militia; Art. 88B - State Police; Art. 96 1/2 -
Veterans.

8. Family Law

Art. 16 - Chancery (part); Art. 45 - Husband and Wife;
Art. 62 - Marriages; Art. 72A - Parent and Child; Art.
89C - Support of Dependents.

9. Commercial Law

Art. 2 - Agents and Factors; Art. 8 - Assignment of
Choses in Action; Art. 13 - Bills of Exchange, etc; Art.
14 - Bills of Lading; Art. 14A - Warehouse Receipts; Art.
29 - Currency; Art. 39B - Fraudulent Conveyances; Art. 47 -
Insolvents; Art. 49 - Interest and Usury; Art. 49A - Invest-
ments (part); Art. 50 - Joint Obligations (part); Art. 58 A -
Loans - Consumer; Art. 70 - Releases and Receipts (part);
Art. 83 - Sales and Notices (part); Art. 95B - Uniform
Commercial Code.

10. Local Government

Art. 4 - Almshouses; Art. 23 - Corporations (part);
Art. 23A - Corporations - Municipal; Art. 23B - Municipal

Corporation Charter; Art. 25 - County Commissioners; Art. 25A - Chartered Counties; Art. 25B - Home Rule for Counties; Art. 44A - Housing Authorities; Art. 44B - Housing Cooperation and Aid; Art. 45A - Industrial Development; Art. 66B - Zoning and Planning; Art. 76 - Publication of Laws (part); Art. 76A - Public Information (part); Art. 78D - Regional Planning Council; Art. 82 - Riots; Art. 90 - Sureties (part); Art. 91 - Surveyor (part); Art. 96 - United States (part).

11. Social Services

Art. 30 - Deaf, Mute, Blind; Art. 48 - Inspections (Secs. 111-115); Art. 49B - Human Relations Commission; Art. 52A - Juvenile Services; Art. 84 - Seamen; Art. 88A - Department of Social Services; Art. 95A - Unemployment Insurance; Art. 100 - Work, Labor and Employment; Art. 101 - Workmen's Compensation.

1973.

12. Corporations and Associations

Art. 15B - Preservation of Business Records; Art. 23 - Corporations (part); Art. 73 - Partnerships - Limited; Art. 73A - Partnerships; Art. 78C - Real Estate Investment Trust; Art. 90 - Sureties (part).

13. Transportation

Art. 1A - Aeronautics; Art. 37 - Ferries; Art. 62B - Maryland Port Authority; Art. 62C - Friendship Airport; Art. 64B - Metropolitan Transit District; Art. 66 1/2 - Vehicle Laws; Art. 89B - State Roads; Art. 94A - Transportation.

14. Business Regulation

Art. 2B - Alcoholic Beverages; Art. 11 - Banks, etc;
Art. 48A - Insurance Code; Art. 48B - Motor Clubs; Art. 56 -
Licenses (part); Art. 66A - Moving Pictures; Art. 71 -
Ordinaries (Secs. 1-2); Art. 78 - Public Service Commission;
Art. 78B - Racing Commission; Art. 90 - Sureties (Secs. 8-10);
Art. 97 - Weights and Measures.

15. Estates and Trusts

Art. 16 - Chancery (part); Art. 37A - Fiduciaries;
Art. 75B - Principle and Income; Art. 93 - Decedents' Estates;
Art. 93A - Protection of Minors, etc.

16. Elections

Art. 33 - Elections Code

17. Criminal Law

Art. 27 - Crimes and Punishments; Art. 27A - Public
Defender; Art. 31B - Defective Delinquents; Art. 38 - Fines
and Forfeitures; Art. 59 - Mental Hygiene (Secs. 9-15);
Art. 85A - Sedition, etc.

18. Occupations and Professions

Art. 10 - Attorneys at Law, etc.; Art. 32 - Denistry;
Art. 43 - Health (part); Art. 56 - Licenses (part); Art. 74 -
Pilots; Art. 75 1/2 - Professional Engineers, etc; Art. 75A -
Public Accountancy.

19. State Government

Art. 15A - Budget and Fiscal Planning; Art. 19 - Comp-
troller; Art. 19A - Conflicts of Interest; Art. 32A - Dept.
of Law; Art. 40 - General Assembly; Art. 41 - Governor, etc.;
Art. 49A - Investments (part); Art. 54 - Hall of Records;

Art. 64A - Merit System; Art. 68 - Notaries Public; Art. 69 - Officers; Art. 70 - Oaths; Art. 73B - Pensions; Art. 76 - Publication of Laws (part); Art. 76A - Public Information (part); Art. 78A - Board of Public Works; Art. 88C - State Planning; Art. 90 - Sureties (part); Art. 91 - Surveyor (part); Art. 95 - Treasurer (part); Art. 96 - United States (part).

20. General Provisions

Art. 1 - Rules of Interpretation; Art. 13 - Bills of Exchange (Secs. 9-11); Art. 94 - Time.

1974

Enactment of Code of Public General Laws of 1974, to stand in lieu of all prior public general laws, subject to specific savings provisions.

1975

Work on public local laws, and problems pertaining to executive orders, agency recommendations, etc.

1976

Submit recommendations as to above; complete transition to continuous formal revision procedures.

3. ALLOCATION OF 1957 CODE ARTICLES

NOTE: Allocation of statutes under new proposed Articles is tentative, and subject to change as actual revision work proceeds.

a. By Proposed New Articles under Classification Scheme Adopted by Commission.

Business Regulation

- Art. 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
- Art. 11 - Banks & Trust Cos.
- Art. 23 - Corporations (part - §§144 - 161 AAA)
- Art. 48A - Insurance
- Art. 48B - Motor Clubs
- Art. 56 - Licenses (part)
- Art. 66A - Moving Pictures
- Art. 71 - Ordinaries (part, §§ 1-2)
- Art. 78 - Public Service Comm.
- Art. 78B - Racing Commission
- Art. 90 - Sureties (part, §§ 8-10)
- Art. 97 - Weights & Measures

Commercial Law

- Art. 2 - Agents & Factors
- Art. 8 - Assignment of Choses in Action
- Art. 13 - Bills of Exchange, etc.
- Art. 14 - Bills of Lading
- Art. 14A - Warehouse Receipts
- Art. 29 - Currency
- Art. 39B - Fraudulent Conveyances
- Art. 47 - Insolvents
- Art. 49 - Interest & Usury
- Art. 49A - Investments (part)
- Art. 50 - Joint Tenants (part)
- Art. 58A - Loans - Consumer
- Art. 79 - Releases & Receipts (part)
- Art. 83 - Sales & Notices (part)
- Art. 95B - Uniform Commercial Code

Corporations and Associations

- Art. 15B - Preservation of Business Records
- Art. 23 - Corporations (part)
- Art. 73 - Partnerships, Limited
- Art. 73A - Partnerships
- Art. 78C - Real Estate Investment Trust
- Art. 90 - Sureties (part)

Courts and Judicial Proceedings

- Art. 5 - Appeals
- Art. 7 - Arbitration
- Art. 9 - Attachments
- Art. 15 - Bounding Lands (part)
- Art. 16 - Chancery (part)
- Art. 17 - Clerks of Court (part)
- Art. 24 - Costs
- Art. 26 - Courts
- Art. 31A - Declaratory Judgments

Art. 35 - Evidence
Art. 36 - Fees
Art. 40 - General Assembly (part - § 45)
Art. 42 - Habeas Corpus
Art. 50 - Joint Obligations (part)
Art. 51 - Juries
Art. 52 - Justices of the Peace
Art. 53 - Landlord & Tenant (part)
Art. 57 - Limitation of Actions
Art. 60 - Mandamus
Art. 67 - Negligence Causing Death
Art. 75 - Practice, etc. at Law
Art. 75C - Prohibited Actions
Art. 79 - Releases & Receipts (part)
Art. 80 - Reporter - State
Art. 83 - Sales & Notices (part)
Art. 87 - Sheriffs
Art. 88 - Slander of Females
Art. 90 - Sureties (part)
Art. 96 - United States (part)

Criminal Law

Art. 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Art. 27A - Public Defender
Art. 31B - Defective Delinquents
Art. 38 - Fines and Forfeitures
Art. 59 - Mental Hygiene (part - §§ 9-15)
Art. 85A - Sedition, etc.

Education

Art. 43A - Higher Education Loan Prog.
Art. 65A - Morgan State College
Art. 77 - Public Education
Art. 77A - Higher Education

Elections

Art. 33 - Elections Code

Estates and Trusts

Art. 16 - Chancery - (part)
Art. 37A - Fiduciaries
Art. 75B - Principle and Income
Art. 93 - Decedents' Estates
Art. 93A - Protection of Minors, etc.

Family Law

Art. 16 - Chancery - (part)
Art. 45 - Husband and Wife
Art. 62 - Marriages
Art. 72A - Parent & Child
Art. 89C - Support of Dependents

General Provisions

Art. 1 - Rules of Interpretation
Art. 13 - Bills of Exchange & Promissory Notes (part §§ 9-11)
Art. 94 - Time

Local Government

- Art. 4 - Almshouses
- Art. 23 - Corporations (part)
- Art. 23A - Corps - Municipal
- Art. 23B - Mun. Corp. Charter
- Art. 25 - County Commissioners
- Art. 25A - Chartered Counties
- Art. 25B - Home Rule for Counties
- Art. 44A - Housing Authorities
- Art. 44B - Housing Cooperation & Aid
- Art. 45A - Industrial Development
- Art. 66B - Zoning & Planning
- Art. 76 - Publication of Laws (part)
- Art. 76A - Public Information (part)
- Art. 78D - Regional Planning Council
- Art. 82 - Riots
- Art. 90 - Sureties (part)
- Art. 91 - Surveyor (part)
- Art. 96 - United States (part)

Natural Resources

- Art. 14B - State Boat Act
- Art. 33B - Environmental Service
- Art. 66C - Natural Resources
- Art. 96A - Water Resources

Occupations and Professions

- Art. 10 - Attys at Law, etc.
- Art. 32 - Dentistry
- Art. 43 - Health (part)
- Art. 56 - Licenses (part)
- Art. 74 - Pilots
- Art. 75 1/2 - Professional Engineers, etc.
- Art. 75A - Public Accountancy

Property

- Art. 3 - Aliens
- Art. 15 - Bounding Lands (part)
- Art. 17 - Clerks (part)
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